

## Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 H-03 /017 W

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R 161410Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL CALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1055

UNCLAS CALI 0275

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC: CASE OF LIPPINCOT, RICHARD LEWIS

SUBJ: ASSISTANCE TO AMERICAN CITIZEN

REF: DEPARTMENT OM (SCS) OF 7/5/74 AND PREVIOUS

1. THE CONSULATE IS DISTURBED BY THE TENOR OF THE DEPARTMENT'S  
REPLY TO LIPPINCOT'S UNDATED LETTER.

THIS REPLY INSINUATES THAT

THE CONSULATE WAS NEGLIGENT IN LIPPINCOT'S CASE. ALTHOUGH THE  
YACHT AMERICUS, OWNED BY RICHARD L. LIPPINCOT, WAS DOCKED IN  
BUENAVENTURA MORE THAN A YEAR, NEITHER LIPPINCOT NOR ANY MEMBER  
OF HIS CREW EVER COMMUNICATED WITH THIS CONSULATE. OUR FIRST  
NEWS OF THE AMERICUS WAS MEDELLIN'S TELEGRAM 0185 DATED JUNE  
1974. THE CONSULATE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY REQUESTED TO ASSIST  
LIPPINCOT (DEPTEL 137196) BUT WAS UNABLE TO DO SO BECAUSE HE HAD  
LEFT FOR THE UNITED STATES. BEFORE DEPARTING HE ALLEGEDLY SPENT  
24 HOURS IN CALI (CALI'S 250) BUT NEVER CONTACTED TGE CONSULATE.

2. U.S. CONSULAR AGENT IN BUENAVENTURA, CAPTAIN ROBERT EARLY  
HAS RENDERED ASSISTANCE TO LIPPINCOT ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS. HIS  
OFFICE PREPARED THE YACHT'S DEPARTURE DOCUMENTS FOR PANAMA AND  
POINTS NORTH. CONAGENT EARLY SAID HE THEN ADVISED LIPPINCOT TO  
PRESENT HIS PAPERS TO THE PORT CAPTAINS OFFICE BUT INSTEAD  
LIPPINCOT APPARENTLY PRESENTED THEM TO AN OFFICE WHICH CAN ONLY  
APPROVE DEPARTURES FOR LOCAL POINTS IN THE VICINITY OF BUENAVENTURA.  
CONSEQUENTLY HIS DEPARTURE DOCUMENTS WERE NOT APPROVED BY THE  
PROPER AUTHORITIES AND HE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PORT CAPTAIN'S  
OFFICE UPON HIS RETURN TO BUENAVENTURA.

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3. ON JUNE 19, 1974 CONAGENT EARLY RECEIVED A TELEGRAM FROM HIS

SON WHO WAS ABOARD THE AMERICUS WHEN IT ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN BAHIA SOLANO. HE STATED THAT THERE WAS THEN NOTHING HE COULD DO AS BY THAT TIME THE COLOMBIAN COAST GUARD HAD DEPARTED FOR BAHIA SOLANO TO BRING THE AMERICUS BACK TO BUENAVENTURA WITH ITS CREW.

4. THE CONSULATE HAS CONTACTED THE CHIEF OF THE PORT POLICE (CALI'S 262) BUT TO DATE THE PORT CAPTAIN HAS NOT RETURNED TO BUENAVENTURA (CALI'S 265). THE PORT CAPTAIN IS EXPECTED TODAY, JULY 16 AND THE CONSULATE WILL AGAIN TRY TO CONTACT HIM AND SUBMIT A REPORT REGARDING LIPPINCOT'S ALLEGED DEBTS.  
COLWELL

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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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